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6	Tel: (415) 599-0210 Fax: (415) 276-1808	
7 8	Attorneys for Defendants The Simply Good Foods Co. and Only What You Need, Inc.	d .
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10	UNITED STATES I	DISTRICT COURT
11	CENTRAL DISTRIC	T OF CALIFORNIA
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13		G N 0.4GTGV02.500
14		Case No. 24STCV23588
15	EMMETT ENRIQUES, individually and on behalf of all other situated,  Plaintiff,	DEFENDANTS THE SIMPLY GOOD FOODS COMPANY AND ONLY WHAT YOU NEED, INC.S NOTICE OF REMOVAL
16	,	
17	V.	(Removal from the Superior Court of the State of California for the County
18	ONLY WHAT YOU NEED, INC., a Delaware Corporation; THE SIMPLE GOOD FOODS COMPANY, a Delaware	of Los Angeles)
19	Corporation; AND DOES 1 THROUGH 70. INCLUSIVE.	
20	Defendants.	
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NOTICE OF REMOVAL

Case No. 24STCV23588

# TO THE CLERK OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Defendants The Simply Good Foods Company ("Simply Good Foods"), erroneously sued as The Simple Good Foods Company, and Only What You Need, Inc. ("OWYN") hereby remove this action from the Superior Court in the State of California for the County of Los Angeles to the United States District Court for the Central District of California, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1332, 1441, and 1446. This is a civil action where the plaintiff and defendants are citizens of different states and the amount in controversy would exceed \$75,000. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. §1446(a), set forth below is a statement of the grounds for removal.

## **NOTICE OF REMOVAL:**

### I. BACKGROUND

- 1. The Simply Good Foods Company is a Colorado-based business committed to creating nutritious and convenient snacks that fit into a healthy lifestyle. Simply Good Foods' products are made using carefully selected ingredients, including protein blends, fibers, and natural flavors, while avoiding artificial additives and preservatives. Simply Good Foods complies with all state and federal food safety regulations. Plaintiff files his claim despite having never purchased an OWYN product.
- 2. OWYN is a New Jersey-based company founded by Kathryn Moos and Jeff Mroz, spouses and athletes who also both suffer from serious food allergies. They created OWYN to make delicious, plant-based protein products free from the most common food allergens. OWYN's products are made from a proprietary pea protein blend combined with other natural flavors, vitamins, and minerals. The products do not contain dairy, gluten, soy, egg, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, or shellfish. OWYN's products comply will all state and federal regulations. Plaintiff files his claim despite having never purchased an OWYN product.

Case No. 24STCV23588

California for the County of Los Angeles, captioned <i>Enriques v. Only What You</i>	
Need, Inc., Case No. 24STCV23588 (the "State Court Action"). A true and correct	
copy of the complaint in the State Court Action is attached hereto as Exhibit A (the	;
Complaint). Mr. Enriques served the Complaint on The Simply Good Foods	
Company on September 17, 2024, and on OWYN on September 26, 2024.	
4. In addition to the Complaint described above, all other pleadings and	
accompanying materials filed in the State Court Action are attached hereto.	
A. The Affidavit of Emmett Enriques is attached hereto as <b>Exhibit B</b> ;	
B. The Civil Case Cover Sheet is attached hereto as <b>Exhibit C</b> ;	
C. The Summons is attached hereto as <b>Exhibit D</b> ;	
D. The Notice of Case Assignment is attached hereto as Exhibit E;	
E. The Minute Order is attached hereto as <b>Exhibit F</b> ;	
F. The Certificate of Mailing is attached hereto as <b>Exhibit G</b> ;	
G. The Initial Status Conference Order is attached hereto as Exhibit H;	
H. The Proof of Service of Summons (Defendant The Simply Good Foods	5
Co.) is attached hereto as Exhibit I;	
I. The Proof of Service of Summons (Defendant OWYN) is attached	
hereto as Exhibit J;	
J. The General Denial and Proof of Service filed by OWYN and The	
Simply Good Foods Co. are attached hereto as Exhibit K;	
K. The Alternative Dispute Resolution packet is attached hereto as Exhib	it
L;	
L. The Voluntary Efficient Litigation Stipulation packet is attached hereto	)
as Exhibit M;	
M. The First Amende General Order on E-Filing is attached hereto as	
Exhibit N.	

NOTICE OF REMOVAL

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## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 5. This Court has original jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1) because the parties are citizens of different states and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.
- Venue is proper in this Court because the Central District of California 6. embraces the County of Los Angeles where the State Court Action was filed. See 28 U.S.C. § 84 (setting Los Angeles County in the Central District); id. § 1441(a) ("[A]ny civil action brought in a State court of which the district courts of the United States have original jurisdiction, may be removed by the defendant . . . to the district court of the United States for the district and division embracing the place where such action is pending.").

#### The Parties Are Citizens of Different States Α.

- An action is removable based on diversity jurisdiction if the controversy 7. is between "citizens of different States." 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1).
- 8. The Simply Good Foods Co. is a corporation with its principal place of business in Colorado.
- 9. OWYN is a corporation with its principal place of business in New Jersey.
  - Plaintiff resides in the State of California. 10.

#### The Amount in Controversy Exceeds \$75,000 В.

Where, as here, "the plaintiff's complaint does not state the amount in 11. controversy, the defendant's notice of removal may do so." Dart Cherokee Basin Operating Co., LLC v. Owens, 574 U.S. 81, 84 (2014). To establish the amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional threshold of \$75,000 pursuant to § 1332(a), a notice of removal "need not contain evidentiary submissions." Id. Rather, "a defendant's notice of removal need include only a plausible allegation that the amount in controversy exceeds the jurisdictional threshold." *Id.* at 89.

## III. DEFENDANTS HAVE MET ALL PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

- 12. This Notice of Removal is signed pursuant to Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. *See* U.S.C. § 1446(a).
- 13. This Notice of Removal has been filed within 30 days of September 26, 2024, the date Plaintiff served the Complaint on OWYN and from which it was first ascertainable this case was removable. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1446(b)(2)(3).
- 14. Copies of "all process, pleadings, and orders served upon" OWYN are attached as **Exhibits A through N**. See 28 U.S.C. § 1446(a).
- 15. Promptly after filing this Notice of Removal in the United States
  District Court for the Central District of California, Simply Good Foods and OWYN
  will provide written notice thereof to Plaintiff and will file a copy of the Notice of
  Removal bearing this Court's "FILED" stamp with the Clerk of the Superior Court of
  the State of California for the County of Los Angeles, to effectuate the removal of
  this action to the United States District Court for the Central District of California,
  pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d).

## IV. RESERVATION OF ALL AVAILABLE RIGHTS AND DEFENSES

16. Simply Good Foods and OWYN expressly reserve all of their defenses and rights, and none of the foregoing shall be construed as in any way conceding the truth of any of Plaintiff's allegations or waiving any of Simply Good Foods and OWYN's defenses. Simply Good Foods and OWYN also reserve their right to amend or supplement this Notice of Removal.

## **CONCLUSION**

WHEREFORE, Defendants The Simply Good Foods Company and OWYN hereby remove this case from the California Superior Court for the County of Los Angeles to this Court.

1	Dated: October 17, 2024	Respectfully Submitted,
2		BRAUNHAGEY & BORDEN LLP
3		By: <u>/s/ David H. Kwasniewski</u> David H. Kwasniewski
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5		Attorneys for Defendants The Simply Good Foods Co. and Only What You
6		Need, Inc.
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